

Changes to Substantive Policy Statement #1
Collection of Qualifying Contributions Prior to Certification as a
Participating Candidate
Discussion and Possible Action at March 30, 2006 Meeting

Version 1 (Requires Application for Certification)

1. A candidate who is interested in participating in the Citizens Clean Elections Act must first file an application to be certified as a participating candidate. After a candidate has filed an application for certification, the candidate may begin to collect qualifying contributions. After the candidate is certified as a participating candidate, the candidate is eligible to apply for funding. To receive funding, the certified participating candidate must submit ~~the~~a minimum number of valid qualifying contributions required for that office. (Adopted April 5, 2000. Revised March 30, 2006.)

Version 2 (Does Not Require Application for Certification)

1. A candidate who is interested in participating in the Citizens Clean Elections Act may “test the waters” by collecting qualifying contributions prior to filing ~~must first file~~ an application to be certified as a participating candidate.—, so long as the candidate has notified the Commission in writing of the intent to collect qualifying contributions for a particular office. After a candidate is certified as a participating candidate, the candidate is eligible to apply for funding. To receive funding, the certified participating candidate must submit ~~a~~the minimum number of valid qualifying contributions required for that office. Should the candidate decide not to seek certification as a participating candidate, the candidate shall either return all qualifying contributions received or receive written permission from the contributors to use their qualifying contributions as campaign contributions. “Written permission” may include a check box on the original \$5 form that authorizes the candidate, if he or she decides not to participate as a publicly-funded candidate, to treat the qualifying contribution as a general campaign contribution. If a good-faith attempt to return the funds to the donor is unsuccessful, the candidate shall submit the contributions to the Clean Elections Fund. (Adopted April 5, 2000. Revised March 30, 2006)

[Agenda Item VI \(A\)](#)